

LAZY EYE SCREENING PROGRAM EXPANDED TO ALL AREA PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Hundreds of colorful red and black posters, similar to the one pictured here are appearing all over Toledo to announce a new phase of community service being initiated by the Toledo Society for the Blind in the greater Toledo United Appeal Area.

Every Tuesday from 9 a.m. until noon, trained volunteers are present to screen the eyes of any pre-school child between the ages of three and five.

The screening is designed primarily to detect amblyopia ex anopsia, or Lazy Eye, a problem found in young children in which one apparently healthy eye has low or weak vision. If not discovered and treated by the time the child is six, amblyopia can result in permanent loss of vision.

Young children do not realize that they are not seeing well and so an early eye examination by a qualified adult is vital.



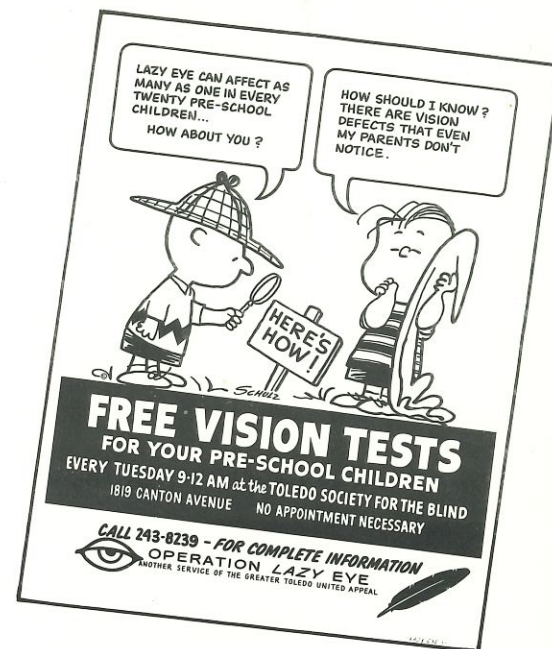
Jeanne Erickson gets her test from Mrs. Yeack.



Mr. William Weber, Program Director of the Friendly Center Community House shows chart to Maggie Lawson.

The service was first begun three years ago as Operation Lazy Eye in cooperation with Project Head Start and, to date, over 3000 children have been screened.

Now, with Head Start sessions ended, the Society volunteers are staying on the job to screen any other pre-school children whose parents bring them in.



No appointment is necessary, parents may bring their children in anytime during the appointed hours.

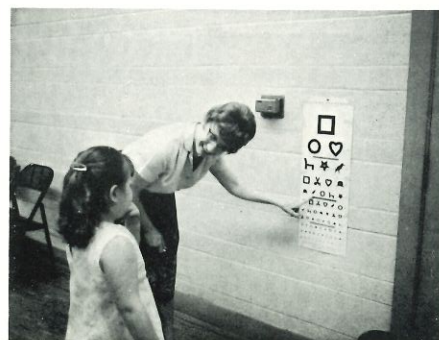
The Friendly Center Community House took advantage of the service on Tuesday, May 14 when Program Director William Weber brought in the Center's ten nursery-age children (see photos).

Letters have been sent to area pastors and nursery groups inviting them to bring in their children for the free examination, which takes only 10-15 minutes per child.

According to program co-chairman Mrs. Dorothy Yeack, there are usually three or four children out of ten who are found to have some eye trouble. They are either scheduled to be rescreened or a recommendation is made to his parents that they take him to an ophthalmologist as soon as possible for a more thorough examination.



The children waiting to have their eyes screened.



Mrs. Dorcas Hantula explains chart to Donna Gloeckl.

The Toledo Society For The Blind NEWS

A NEWS LETTER TO HELP YOU BECOME BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THIS RED FEATHER AGENCY

Vol. 5, No. 1—MAY, 1968

1819 Canton Avenue

Telephone 243-8239

REHABILITATION - NOT SYMPATHY - NEEDED BY AREA'S BLIND

Progress Is Being Made—But Community Must Help To Keep Programs Moving Ahead

DID YOU KNOW that 30,000 people lose their sight yearly in the United States and that a substantial number of the 30,000 live a life **so protected** that it isn't living at all? Too many sighted think they help the blind person by doing everything for him. Unfortunately, these are the ways of "killing" the blind without ending their lives.

A major hurdle to be overcome is attitude. Many sighted people are not at ease when they are with a blind person. Some still view the blind as helpless. It's about time the sighted discover the blind person can do many things with the proper training and rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation of a blind person involves teaching them the skills sighted people take for granted. The process involves simple personal management activities such as brushing teeth, combing hair, writing one's own name, housecleaning, household mechanics, and mobility (moving around freely on their own).

Most people sympathize with the blind. Most people feel they should do something to help the blind. Most people think of ways in which they could help. Most people profess to admire lofty ideals of community service but, unfortunately, too many people give only lip service to their ideals.

1967 was an exciting and very successful year of service at The Toledo Society for the Blind. Our opportunities for service have outstripped our physical facilities. We have acquired property adjoining our present building—employed an architect—and are planning for the next ten years. Our future success depends upon how well we convey to present and potential donors the conviction their gifts and bequests will be wisely used by The

Society. We need the help of all who are interested in the visually handicapped and blind.

Remember us in your contributions and will. Buy our Christmas cards. We are a Red Feather agency and our basic expenses are covered by the United Appeal, but your purchase of our Christmas cards, your contributions from time to time and remembering us in your will is the additional help we need to do the extra.

Thank you.

JOHN GOERLICH

PLANS FOR NEW BUILDING UNDERWAY



After months of planning, Society's (l. to r.) President John Goerlich; Executive Director, Lyle Kirk; and Office Manager Don Norwood meet with representatives of the W.W. Granger building Glen N. Raetz and Vernon E. Rohrbacher to transfer the deed to the Toledo Society of the Blind.

The building, which is adjacent to the Society's, will be used for expansion of our rehabilitation programs.

HELPING HANDS

It takes many helping hands to keep the Society for the Blind operating at peak level. And in addition to our dedicated staff literally dozens of individuals and community groups continue to offer their services. For these we are forever grateful.

As a result of one of these acts of generosity, our building will receive a new coat of paint next month.

Three local groups are teaming together to brighten up the Society. They are the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers, Local 7, which will furnish a minimum of 50 men; the Painting, Decorating and Contractors Association which will supply equipment for the job; and the Toledo Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association which will donate the materials.

Crews will move in June 15th and paint the outside and whatever rooms inside they have time for.

The local groups have been conducting this program of sprucing up the buildings of worthy groups for years as a part of their observation of National Painting and Decorating Week.

One of the main purposes of the Society is to provide group activities that will draw the blind out of their natural shell and into more of the mainstream of life and sociability.

The people pictured below, who all recently helped with one of our Family Night functions typify the many others who help the society maintain meaningful and enjoyable activities.



The Toledo Choir lead the evening with a selection of their favorite songs.



Main speaker of the evening was Judge Reno Riely, a long time friend of the Society.



These young ladies from Waite High School provide excellent help in serving the fine dinner.

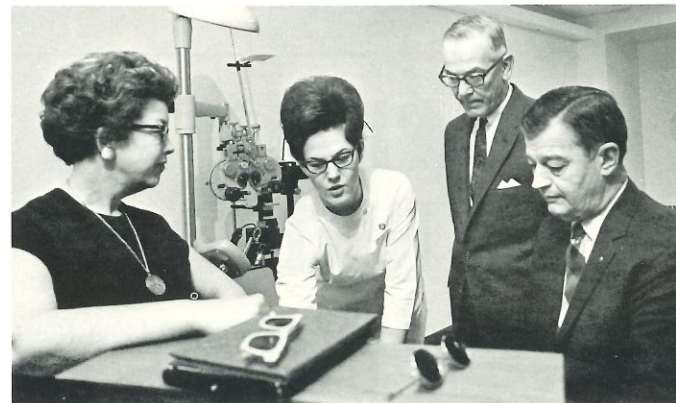
No matter what your particular talents might be, there are people in your community whom you can help.

NEW EYE CLINIC

The result of a \$5,000 contribution made through the Society by the Toledo Lions Club was recently shown to officers of the Club at St. Vincent Community Medical Clinic.

The fully equipped Eye Clinic is staffed by the Hospital and by local Ophthalmologists with Mrs. John Messaros of the Society's staff providing part time ancillary help. The Society also furnishes transportation for patients to the Clinic where necessary.

The eventual goal of the Society and the new medical clinic is to provide eye care for all visually handicapped persons in the greater Toledo area regardless of his financial situations.



Pictured are (1) Mrs. John Messaros of the Toledo Society for the Blind, (2) Miss Charlotte Sauer RN of St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center staff and (3) Ned R. Wetherill, First Vice President of the Lions Club, (4) Robert W. Miller Lions Club President.

BLIND CAR RALLY

There is a special air of excitement around the Society this month. It has been caused by the fact our members will have an opportunity to be "seeing eyes" for drivers in a "Car Rally for the Blind" in September.

Organized by Mrs. Hugh Kirk of the Northwestern Ohio Rally Association, the "Blind" car rally will begin and end at the Society's building and pass through various checkpoints in northern Ohio and southern Michigan.

Sighted drivers will be "guided" by their blind navigators who will read rally directions written in braille.

Forty to fifty local car enthusiasts are expected to take part in the day which will give Society members a well-appreciated outing as well as a party in the evening. Net proceeds from entry fees will be donated to the Society's eye screening program.

The braille directions will be prepared by Society members and the Collingwood Avenue Temple Sisterhood for Services to the Blind.

Trophies for the event are being donated by AP Parts Corporation and other local businesses.

MOBILITY TRAINING PROVIDES GIANT STEP FORWARD IN SOCIETY REHABILITATION PROGRAM

One of the brightest spots on the horizon for our Toledo area blind is the Society's Mobility Training Program being conducted by our newly trained mobility technician Mrs. Rosalyn Snow. As the name implies, the purpose of the program is to help the blind learn to travel independently about the city.

This special training requires a particularly skilled instructor and Toledo is very fortunate to have Mrs. Snow who just completed an intensive two month course in blind mobility training (peripatology) at the Little Rock, Arkansas Enterprizes for the Blind. She is one of only a few persons in the entire state of Ohio qualified for this work. Previously, the nearest training facilities were in Columbus and Pittsburgh.

For the immediate future, the tremendous need for this program has required limiting the program to persons attempting to achieve vocational objectives, but even this, for the areas more than 1100 blind persons who all require some degree of mobility training to carry on their daily living, is a long awaited step in the right direction.

The amount of training obviously varies according to each student's ability, previously acquired skills, and general health, but according to Mrs. Snow, even the easiest to teach students require some 60 to 100 hours before winning their "solo wings".

So far, six students have received this honor, and Mrs. Snow hopes to double this number in 1968. To help her in her task, the Society is remodeling a now vacant room in the basement of

our building that will serve as class room and office. It will have its own built-in street curbs and sidewalk and as funds permit a number of physical training aids to help the blind learn the more difficult steps before testing their skills in moving traffic.



Carl Leslie, one of the six recent graduates of the Society's mobility training program, receives his Winged Can Solo pin from Mrs. Rosalyn Snow, mobility instructor. The pins signify that the trainees are able to guide themselves unescorted through downtown traffic.



Successfully crossing the intersection where Jackson, Michigan and Spielbusch Avenues intersect with its maze of green "turn" arrows and Walk - Don't Walk signs can be a dangerous task for even a sighted person. For Virginia Place and other recent graduates of the Society's new mobility training program, the crossing was simply one of a series of daily assignment necessary to learn to be able to travel to and from their jobs.



Help for the program has also come from a number of other sources. The Community Traction Co., for example has donated a complete bus which is now parked in a space next to the Society's building loaned to us by AP Parts Corporation. Here Mrs. Helen Johnson uses the bus to learn how to board and embark. Inside the bus, students are taught to gently use their canes to "see" if a seat is occupied.

BLIND EDUCATOR TELLS OF SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR



Dr. Richard Kinney; seated beside him is Mrs. Jean Ridenour, his personal secretary.

The Toledo Society for the Blind was greatly honored on Wednesday, May 15th to have the renowned Dr. Richard Kinney speak at a dinner.

Dr. Kinney is known around the world for his accomplishments. He went blind at the age of six, and yet was able to complete his secondary schooling. During his second year of college he suffered the total loss of his hearing.

Despite this double handicap he was able to graduate summa cum laude from the Hadley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois where he is now Associate Director.

Dr. Kinney has just returned from a 28-day tour of four countries in South America and related his experiences in visiting various schools for the blind down there.

Dr. Kinney said that we can aid the blind of the world by giving them technical help and equipment. But it is more important that we be an example for them. We can help them more by teaching than by preaching.